



# Osmotherley Area Messenger

Issue 39

March 2011

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## Osmotherley Village Theatre

The Osmotherley Village Theatre does not rest for long! With the new play, 'Move over Mrs Markham' coming up next month, the Area Messenger went to find out what new entertainment is in store for us.

Leanne Robinson, the Director for this production, told us that the group had been delighted with the tremendous success of their last production, 'The Good Hope' but had made the conscious decision to follow it with a total contrast. The OVT also listened to the villagers' responses to the questionnaire that was sent out before Christmas and which revealed that locals are keen for a bit of comedy to follow the rather bleak winter! Leanne set herself the difficult task of reading a whole selection of comedies before she selected the current play and she admitted that she was very pleased with her choice.

'Move over Mrs Markham' is set in the 1970s, so don't expect any subtle costumes, set, or political correctness! The whole play is set in the London flat of a wealthy couple who have employed an interior decorator to restyle their property. The complex relationships of the couple, friends, and colleagues result in some hilarious situation comedy full of seduction, liaisons, and a riotous finale. Leanne revealed that people will certainly not be disappointed with the pace of the play, the hilarious characters and their comic muddles. She also commented that everything about the production is bright and entertaining, with its fabulous 'retro' set.

We asked Leanne about the growing dynamism of the village theatre and she told us that there is the great combination of a solid core of committed members who work together brilliantly and

a constant flow of new performers of all ages. The shifting roles of the members, with different directors for each production, also bring diverse styles to each offering, meaning that this group is certainly not complacent or predictable. Leanne confessed that she has some nerves about her debut as a director, but is also excited by the challenge and comfortable in her confidence in a strong cast who always have the power to surprise and entertain.

**Move Over Mrs Markham**  
by Ray Cooney and John Chapman

**Thursday 24th, Friday 25th  
and Saturday 26th March at  
7.30 The Village Hall.  
£5 Concessions £4.50**

Tickets go on sale from 1st March from the Top Shop Box Office and from cast members. The last production was a sell-out so book early to avoid disappointment

## Royal British Legion table top sale

The Legion will hold a fundraising table top sale in the Village Hall on Sat 26th March at 10:30am. Anyone wishing to take part and have

a table to sell any items should apply to Maureen Downey on 883089. Cost for a table is £10. There will be tea/coffee and home baked refreshments

available, donations welcome. A raffle will also be held. Entrance 50p with all monies raised going to local Legion welfare.

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**Village Hall Bookings**  
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## Parish Council

The February meeting of Osmotherley Area Parish Council heard that thefts of diesel and of farm equipment continue and that recently an organised Rave took place at Sheepwash, additionally a driver suspected of driving whilst over the limit had been detained in Cuddy Lane. The effects of the winter weather late in last year are still affecting the area with many road surfaces badly potholed and now needing to be repaired, particularly in Thimbleby. The road through Kirby Sigston has suffered following its use as a diversionary route. When further work is needed to the A684 it is to be hoped that Highways will consider the likely impact of traffic building up on the Jeator Houses crossing and that warning signs are placed to remind users that this is a road also used by livestock owners, particularly horses.

Members heard that a housing needs survey and also a library consultation are in progress and residents are to be asked to complete these as far as possible before returning them. Recently it was announced that the Youth Hostel is to be closed and Members agreed to oppose this decision based on the need to continue to support tourism and business use in the area and this support has been relayed to the National Park as well as to the YHA.

Following repair work to a property on North End the grass verge has sustained much damage and the Clerk was asked to write to the occupier reminding them that these verges are for all to enjoy. It was also pointed out that parking of vehicles in any location which may obstruct the footway is a matter of Police concern and that they have jurisdiction over such matters.

## Summer Games Committee

– proposed changes for disbursement of profits

The Summer Games are a great day out for all, but also raise important money for the village. For many years, the Summer Games Committee (SGC) has operated as a more-or-less remote sub-committee of the Village Hall Committee (VHC), and all profits have gone to the Village Hall. Without these, the hall might not have survived.

As a Registered Charity, profits can legally be used only to benefit the objects of the Village Hall. However, for several years there has been a growing feeling among some that, as well as the hall itself, the opportunity should exist for Summer Games profits to benefit deserving non-Village Hall organisations. (Examples could include the village Football Team and the Jamie Hill Trust for the Sports Pavillion). The VHC have stretched this as far as they are legally able by offering funds to organisations using the hall for improving their own facilities in the hall, and offering a free stall at Summer Games to others. But as a charity the VHC is legally unable to provide funding to village organisations not related to the VH.

The Summer Games Committee proposes that from this year it will operate as an independent body, governed by its own constitution. Each year the SGC would seek applications from village organisations or individuals, including of course the village hall, for grants from the profits arising from the games.

The VHC have expressed understandable reservations at losing absolute control of the profits; but the SGC have reassured them that the expectation is that the Village Hall will usually receive the lion's share of the profits. It is recognised by the SGC as the number one village priority; nothing is more important than the ongoing welfare of the Village Hall. However, the new arrangements open the door to other deserving non-VH organisations to apply for funds, which is seen as only fair.

If you have any comments on this, please phone one of those below by 9 March 2011. Copies of the proposed constitution will be available to read in the Top Shop. (Thanks again Top Shop).  
Jim Whitton 443, Hugh Thompson 479 for the Summer Games Committee.  
Jane Naish 07870 240 323, Vicki Morton 168, for the Village Hall Committee

### Charity quiz night

Queen Catherine will host a quiz on Fri 4th March in aid of the Alzheimers Society (7 for 7.30pm start). Entry forms from the QC (£10

team of 4; Prizes for 1st & 2nd place; and raffle.).

Donations and raffle prizes gratefully accepted on the night. All proceeds go towards sponsorship to enable Cath Starkie to take part in the Lake

District Four Peaks Challenge, organised by the Alzheimers Society (25-28 June 2011). The money raised will go to help the 750,000 dementia sufferers in the UK.

Osmotherley' Film's next great presentation takes us back to the heady days of 1950's Liverpool:

**FRIDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH,**  
**The Village Hall**  
**NOWHERE BOY**  
**[2009] Cert. 15 98mins**

*Starring: Kristin Scott Thomas, and Aaron Johnson*  
*"It's fab!...a crowd-pleaser beyond question" (The Times)*

A boy yearns for a normal family life and an escape in rock 'n' roll. He will become a member of one of the most successful rock groups of all time: The Beatles. He is John Lennon. This is his early life.

**Doors open 7.30pm; Film starts 8pm**

Bring your own refreshments (and a cushion if you wish!)  
Guests admitted (must be over 16 yrs of age). Guest Fee £5  
[Brylcream and quiffs optional!]

## Osmotherley School

Since I last wrote the children have been extremely busy both in the Acorns Class and the Oaks. We have had a visit from James Stretton – a brass player- organised through Music For Life programme. The whole school were entertained by James as he played a wide range of different brass instruments before allowing the children to join in and have a try! He then worked with the Oaks class singing songs and playing, before bringing everyone together at the end of the morning to share. The children and staff thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The Oaks class continue with their study of the Tudors including a visit from a couple of Tudor ladies who gave the children the opportunity to

experience Tudor cookery and learn how they kept clean ( or rather didn't!). Year 5 and 6 had the opportunity to go to a craft workshop organised by some Northallerton College students. The children were fabulous, it was wonderful to see them working with older students and the results of their labours are now on display in the school hall. The Acorns continue to work outside on a weekly basis and last week as part of their theme 'Sticks, stones and old bones' created some cave paintings using charcoal that they had made the previous week in the 'fire pit'. The corner of the classroom has been transformed into a mountain cave! At the moment they are busy animating a song called 'The Dinosaur Stomp' and this

will be put onto our school website once it's finished!! At school the eco-committee have been working hard towards 'Green Flag' status as the children are keen to reduce their carbon footprint. The eco-committee have been working towards this award for 18 months and there have been lots of changes in school to try and cut down the amount of resources the school uses such as energy, paper and water. They also run a 'Fair Trade' tuck shop twice a week. The committee have the school 'on board' now and a notice-board where they display their work for others to see. What they would like now is to get our local community involved as well so they have written some recommendations that they hope people will follow.

- Eco – Committee say:**
- Reduce , reuse and recycle whenever you can
  - Remember to use your blue box for plastic, glass and tins!
  - Remember to use your blue bag for recycling paper
  - Have a shower not a bath
  - Use energy saving light bulbs and turn off when not in use
  - Turn things off at the wall don't leave on standby.

We would like to invite everyone to **'The Mad Hatter's Tea Party'** on World Book Day , **Thurs 3rd March at 3pm, school hall** where we will be serving Fair Trade refreshments and there will be a stall selling all kinds of Fair Trade goods

## Royal British Legion



Osmotherley has an active branch of the Royal British Legion with a membership of over seventy. Over the past ten years branch members, with unstinting help from non-members, have raised the sum of £36,430 for the annual Poppy appeal, £20,150 for Lister House, the Legion Poppy Home in Ripon and over £3,600 for other deserving military charities. On Wednesday 26th January, at an informal ceremony, Legion stalwart, Doug McGarvey, was presented with a certificate of appreciation marking his ten years of collecting for the annual poppy appeal. Doug, a former RAF National Serviceman, retired financial advisor, enthusiastic caravanner and active bandsman with three local bands, modestly stated he is 'just doing his bit' in helping the Legion provide a wide range of support and caring facilities

to both serving and former members of the armed forces.

Branch Chairman, David Black, added "Doug is one of that wonderful group of people who are the very backbone of the Branch and Legion. Each year they turn out to help. Doug always covers the Snilesworth patch, the area between Osmotherley and Helmsley. This is one of the most beautiful parts of the National Park, extremely popular with visitors and walkers.

However, when Doug ventures out with his poppies and collecting tin it's early November, long after the visitors have gone and a time when most people stay at home by the fire. It's what you call dedication and commitment."

## Editorial Team:

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Articles for April by 23rd  
March please



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## Dates for your Diary

### March

Tues 1st—8pm Osmotherley Show Dominoes, Queen Catherine

Tues 1st—7pm Osmotherley and District Garden Club AGM followed at 7.45pm by  
'Wildlife Friendly Gardening' presented by Osmotherley Wildlife Group, Everyone welcome

Sun 6th—6.30pm Methodist Church evening service led by Mrs M Stevenson.

Thurs 3rd—3pm School, 'The Mad Hatter's Tea Party' - Fair Trade goods/refreshments

Wed 9th—7.30pm Queen Catherine Royal British Legion Monthly meeting and bingo

Wed 9th—7pm St Peter's, Ash Wednesday Service

Sun 13th—6.30pm Methodist Church evening service led by Rev. A Bryer

Tues 15th—8pm Osmotherley Show Dominoes, Dog and Gun, Potto

Fri 18th—7.30pm Village Hall Osmotherley Film 'Nowhere Boy'

Sat 19th—10am - noon the Methodist Church Coffee Morning cake and produce stalls

Sun 20th 6.30pm Methodist Church Holy Communion led by Rev. Robert Gee

Thurs 24th—Sat 26th—7.30pm, Village Hall. OVT, 'Move Over Mrs Markham'

Sat 26th - 10.30am Village Hall Royal British Legion Table Top Sale

Sun 27th—6.30pm Methodist Church evening service led by Rev. E Clark.

Wed 30th—7:30pm Q Catherine, RBL Domino Drive (Arthur Taylor Memorial cup)

### April

Sun 3rd—10.30am St Peter's Mothering Sunday Special Service

Wed 6th—7:30pm Q Catherine, Royal British Legion Monthly Meeting and bingo

Maundy Thursday 21st—St Peter's, service at 7pm

Good Friday 22nd—St Peter's service at 12 to 3pm

Easter Sunday 24th - St. Peter's service at 10.30am.

### Thimbleby

(6m. E.) The village lies on the western edge of Thimbleby Moor. To the south is Nun House, a farmhouse which is believed to stand on the site of a medieval nunnery. Hanging Stone dangles ominously 931 ft. above the village.

*(extract from the Northallerton Rural District Official Guide. Publication date unknown) Next month Ellerbeck*



## Churches together in Osmotherley

A series of Lent studies will be run in the Chancel of St Peter's Church at 10am on the following Wednesdays: March 15th, 23rd and 30th and April 6th. A similar course will be run on the same dates at 7.30pm in the evening in Washing Beck Cottage, Thimbleby by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs David Owst. These courses are open to anyone and they promise to be very interesting being based on some specially produced materials.

Looking further ahead there will be a Soup Lunch held in the Village Hall on 21st May in aid of Christian Aid. It will run from 11am to 2pm and we

hope to produce some interesting lunches.

There will be an Ecumenical Pilgrimage to the Lady Chapel at 3pm on 3rd July This will be a great opportunity to visit this fascinating spot and in case anyone cannot face the walk the village minibus will be on hand.

**Special service for  
Mothering Sunday St.  
Peter's Osmotherley  
Sunday April 3rd at  
10.30am**

Mothers are special! The service at St Peter's is for the whole family but especially for mothers.

With contributions from local children and members of the village community, we aim to make this a very special celebration. There will be floral gifts, tea/coffee and cakes as well as a children's art display entitled "My Mum". Do come along, you may even recognise yourself!

If you would like any further information about the service please contact Eileen Bellett on 01609-883550 or [eileenbellett@btinternet.com](mailto:eileenbellett@btinternet.com) A concert will be given by Chris Whitton on 10 June at 7.30pm in St Peter's.